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## Thailand

### Grain and Feed

### Weekly Rice Price Update

2005

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**Report Highlights:**

Despite anticipated quiet foreign demand, export prices of white rice continued to increase due to the upward revision of second crop intervention prices.

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Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Bangkok [TH1]  
[TH]

**Indicative Prices (Week Ending Apr. 11):**

Thailand: Export (FOB) Prices for various grades of rice (USD/M.T.)									
	Exporter Observations							Period Avg.	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	443	-	-	445	475	420	420	443	440
WR 100 B	308	-	-	304	304	300	298	303	301
PB 5%	300	-	-	306	305	302	290	301	302
WR 5%	303	-	-	300	300	295	293	298	296
WR 10%	296	-	-	298	298	293	288	295	292
WR 15%	283	-	-	295	290	286	283	287	285
WR 25%	273	-	-	293	275	266	278	277	275
WR 35%	270	-	-	290	272	264	273	274	271
A 1 SUP	228	-	-	227	227	223	225	226	228
A 1 SPEC	226	-	-	226	226	-	223	225	227
Source: Average actual prices received from exporters									

**Market Tone**

Despite anticipated quiet market demand during the Thai New Year holiday, export prices for most grades of white rice continued to increase. The surge reflected the upward revision of the intervention prices of the Government's second crop intervention program (April 15 - August 15, 2005) by 100 baht/ton (roughly U.S.\$ 3/MT). This resulted in an increase of the second crop intervention prices by around 28 percent from the previous year's levels. The exportable supplies will likely be tighter. However, parboiled rice prices eased slightly in response to less aggressive loading activities, as most exporters fulfilled the pending shipments to African countries. Meanwhile, prices of inferior rice, A1 grade white rice in particular, continued to decline, as Thai rice was relatively so high that foreign buyers reportedly shifted to superior Vietnamese rice like 25% grade white rice.

The following are the reported rice exports (as is basis):

WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)
FEB 20	118,514	121,016	897	729
FEB 27	81,374	107,752	979	878
MAR 6	73,669	91,909	1,052	991
MAR 13	88,005	90,391	1,140	1,121
MAR 20	95,458	84,627	1,236	1,265
MAR 27	89,287	86,605	1,325	1,409
APR 3	121,400	98,537	1,446	1,572
APR 10	89,073	98,804	1,536	1,701

*Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002, do not include fragrant rice. The authority to report fragrant rice exports was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers from the Board of Trade for non-fragrant and from the Office of Commodity Standards for fragrant rice when available, but the reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.*

Unofficial exports (excluding fragrant rice) for Apr. 4-10, 2005 totaled 89,073 tons, down 32,327 tons from the previous week's total and down 9,732 tons from the four-week moving average of 98,804 tons. Exports during Jan. 1 – Apr. 10, 2005 amounted to 1,535,556 tons, as compared with 1,701,071 tons in the previous year.

According to the Department of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan. 1 – Mar. 23, 2005, amounted to 1,744,965 tons, down 4.4 percent from 1,824,492 tons in the previous year.

### Weekly Rice Sales

Private registered rice export sales for the period of Mar. 14-18, Mar. 21-25, and Mar. 28 – Apr. 1, 2005 are as follows:

Movement (MT)	Mar. 21-25	Mar. 28 – Apr. 1	Apr. 4-8
weekly sales	128,172	74,991	154,694
4 week sum	350,280	392,639	495,926
4 week mov. avg.	87,570	98,160	123,982
Total weekly sales	1,352,835	1,427,826	1,582,520

End of Report.